



Commander Damon W. Cooper, USN, Commander, Air Task Group Three. CAG was graduated from the Naval Academy in 1941. Shortly thereafter he was assigned to the destroyer, USS Waters, as engineering officer. CDR. Cooper went into the flight program in February 1943. Upon receiving his wings in the summer of 1944, he was ordered to VT-24, a torpedo bomber squadron which operated from the USS Santee in the Philippine and Okinawa area. He next served as the Navigator aboard the USS Kasaan Bay, an escort carrier participating in the " Magic Carpet " operation, bringing the troops home.

CDR. Cooper entered the Naval Intelligence School in Washington, D.C. and graduated in September 1947. After serving on COMAIRPAC staff from August 1949 to December 1950, he became the Intelligence Officer aboard the USS Philippine Sea. He worked for a while with the Joint Operations Center in Korea and in 1951 served on the Staff of ComCarDiv Five. Next he went to VF-821 aboard the Essex in the Korean campaign.

Prior to taking command of ATG-3 in 1955, CAG was with the Air Warfare Division of the Chief of Naval Operations.

CDR Cooper is holder of three Distinguished Flying Crosses, a Bronze Star, 12 Air Medals, and a letter of Commendation.